



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

AUSTIN 11, TEXAS

JOHN BEN SHEPPERD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 8, 1953

Hon. Ben Ramsey
Lieutenant Governor
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas

Letter Opinion No. MS-68

Re: Legality of purchasing a first
aid kit from the contingent ex-
pense funds of the Senate.

Dear Governor Ramsey:

Your letter of June 18, 1953, propounds the following ques-
tion:

"During the last session of the Legislature the Con-
tingent Expense Committee of the Senate, through the reg-
ular channels, purchased a first-aid kit for the use of the
Senate. There has been a question raised as to the legality
of the payment. I would like to have an opinion from your
office as to whether or not this is a legal purchase and
whether payment therefor should be made."

It is our opinion that state funds may be used to purchase
first aid kits for the emergency treatment of officers and employees
of the State who become ill or receive injuries in the performance of
their duties. This is an expenditure which tends to prevent loss of time
from work and to safeguard the health and well-being of personnel a-
gainst on-the-job mishaps and falls within the same category as other
expenditures for protecting the health and promoting the efficiency of
personnel during working hours, such as providing heat, fans, soap,
drinking fountains, and so on. You are advised that the kit in question
may be paid for out of the funds appropriated for contingent expenses
of the Legislature.

Yours very truly,

JOHN BEN SHEPPERD
Attorney General

By
Elbert M. Morrow
Assistant

EMM:wb